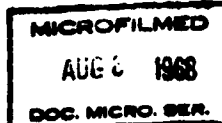


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AUSTRIA
X-112 - 21383
9 June 1952 (P/23753)

SUBJECT: Information on Dr. Emerich OFFCZAREK's
Connections

Time : Fall 1948 through beginning of 1952
Received: -
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1. One of OFFCZAREK's close collaborators is undoubtedly Dr. Otto SCHOTT, acting manager of Linz Nibelungen Verlag and Bucherdienst Speck & Co. SCHOTT provided OFFCZAREK a cover employment with his enterprise. SCHOTT's activity for OFFCZAREK is not known in detail; probably he only furnished him with information on political personalities and was helpful in establishing contacts with persons considered suitable as agents for OFFCZAREK's organization. The Nibelungen Verlag office was doubtlessly used as letter drop and agent meeting point.

2. One of SCHOTT's main connections is Dr. Ludwig JEDLIKA, Vienna, a former NJ leader, who succeeded in winning Catholic and OeVP conservative circles' confidence. He contributes to Dr. FINDER's "Oesterreichische Furche", holds friendly connections with Nationalrat Dr. Edmund LUDWIG, whom he assists in his activity for the European movement, and has allegedly free access to foreign minister Dr. Karl GRUBER and also to a number of high-ranking Vienna Catholic prelates. JEDLIKA is believed to work for Soviet intelligence. Allegedly he held connections with the Soviets already during the battle of Vienna. One of JEDLIKA's closest friends is Dr. Baras BORODAJKEWICZ who collaborated with the Soviets at least until the end of 1950. In 1949 - possibly also later - JEDLIKA, for a small salary, collected information for Dr. Wilhelm SCHOTT. In fall 1950, Dr. SCHOTT tried to come into contact with Linz Freemasons; his application for membership was supported by Dr. Erich BLUMBERG, head of Linz Freemasons, and Linz Polizeidirektor Dr. Franz HUPFERDINGER. It is unknown whether SCHOTT became a mason.

Dr. SCHOTT is also leading with Linz "Austria Club", which mainly consists of liberal-minded members of Linz society. SCHOTT had been introduced to such circle by old Russian

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ATTACHMENT

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emigrant Dr. Georg v. Bok, Lins, Glimpfingerstrasse 87, who is employed with the Lins Information Center and also lectures on Russian language and literature.

3. Officially, the intelligence connection between SCHOTT and OFFCZAREK was dropped in July 1951 at the latest, when the OFFCZAREK group was dissolved and re-established on a smaller scale. At the end of February 1951, SCHOTT was seen receiving a bunch of banknotes from OFFCZAREK. However, meetings between SCHOTT and OFFCZAREK still continued. The collaboration between SCHOTT and OFFCZAREK was tolerated by HOETTL. Apparently HOETTL thought it wise to maintain at least indirect connection with OFFCZAREK. Occasional conversations between HOETTL and OFFCZAREK took place, the last one, as far as is known, in fall 1951.

4. OFFCZAREK's main assistant apart from Martin SCHMIDT, was Harry MAST, Lins, Bethlehemstrasse 1 d, whose task was to compile incoming information into reports and to supervise the couriers. Probably recommended by SCHOTT, MAST secretly collaborated with HOETTL since late in summer 1951. At the end of February 1952 he was fired by the G-Organisation because of his contact with HOETTL. Since such time he is paid by HOETTL personally.

5. Already in 1949, OFFCZAREK had been warned about Dr. Kurt WESSELY by different parties, among them MAST; OFFCZAREK passed such warnings on to WESSELY advising him to carefully avoid anything that could make him appear a Soviet agent. It is an established fact that OFFCZAREK knew the reasons for such suspicion.

6. a- WESSELY's wife Susanne repeatedly visited her husband at Lins, when she was still living in Budapest.
- b- when WESSELY stayed at Bad Hall in fall 1949, he went several times by automobile into the Soviet zone via Steinhilber.
- c- WESSELY is in close contact with the Communist-controlled Volksdeutsche Ivor-MAGY-Committee. Late in January 1951, he secretly met MAGY in Lins-Urfahr at the home of Oberbaurat Franz SCHIEFTHALER;
- d- WESSELY is on friendly terms with Arnold BRONNEM, editor with the Communist daily "Neue Zeit", and Raphael MUALLA, Upper Austrian representative of "Wiener Kurier" and contributor to Radio Red-White-Red. MUALLA holds a number of Communist connections and is a contributor to the Communist "Tagebuch" under the cover name Ralph HOLLMANN;

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- e- on 10 January 1952, WESSELY published an article "Von Otto Habsburg zu Canaval" with the Vienna Communist daily "Der Abend". Such article was passed on to the "Abend" editorial staff by Hugo FRISCHKANN, deputy editor-in-chief with the Linz Communist daily "Neue Zeit";
- f- When in Salzburg, WESSELY reportedly stayed over the night at the home of Elisabeth FRIMWASSER, who permanently holds two rooms in reserve for Communist agents passing through Salzburg. Such fact is known to Salzburg State Police;
- g- on 25 January 1951, WESSELY had a conference with two Soviets in mufti at Urfahr Hotel Achleitner; the room had been booked by the Urfahr Komendatura;
- h- as Upper Austrian correspondent of "Salzburger Nachrichten" WESSELY has free access to all business enterprises in Upper Austria. This enables him to interview the managers of important Upper Austrian plants and factories. Information thus collected have however only scarcely been used by him for articles;
- i- contact also exists with VOEST employees Dr. Friedrich VOGL, secretary to Ing. FALKE BACH, and Dipl. Ing. PRANTZ (fnu). WESSELY intended to become press manager with VOEST through intermediation of the two above, but failed (1950);
- j- WESSELY's expenses by far exceed his income from journalism, G-Organization and from his partnership with the Linz iron trade firm S. EHRENFELTZBERGER. For instance, he spent AS 25,000. for Christmas presents to his wife in 1949, AS 30,000. to 35,000. for a new apartment at Linz, and high sums for a vacation at Naples (summer 1950).

7. Among WESSELY's wide-spread connections the following should be mentioned in addition:

- a- Director Dr. Josef BAUER, administrator of Donau Dampfschiffahrtsgesellschaft, known to hold good Soviet connections;
- b- Dr. Taras BOFODAJEWYCZ (see para. 2);
- c- Dr. Erich BLUMBERG (see para. 2); WESSELY applied for Freemasonry membership at the same time as Dr. SCHOTT;
- d- Dr. Rudolf FISCHER, a former Nazi journalist, after 1938 editor-in-chief of "Wiener Neue Freie Presse", now editor-in-chief of the nationalist weekly "Der Fortschritt" at Essen/Ruhr.